



THE KEY

ST. MATTHEW'S PARISH

BEDFORD N.Y.

January

To know Christ and to make Him known

2008

This Year Go for the Gold!

Dear Friends,

It's a new year, time to start over. In this time of new beginnings, why not go for the gold?

What do I mean by "the gold?" More time to pursue interests? More job satisfaction? Happy, well-adjusted children? Good health? More travel? Realizing long-held dreams?

If we called all these things the stuff of a so-called "golden life," we'd be right. But God's definition is a little different. The so-called gold of human experience, on His terms, is what the Apostle Paul describes as "righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit."

How unrealistic, how super-spiritual and ivory tower, you might say; I need to put my efforts toward achieving profound real-life benefits in real-life situations. But if we are in a right relationship with God (the biblical definition of righteousness), the ultimate result will be profound real-life benefits for us: God's peace and God's joy. And these are the highest and greatest experiential objectives we can achieve in this life i.e., the gold of human experience.

So this new year, hook up with Him in new ways. Seek Him and all that He has for you, and you'll find your life changed for the better. And the best place to start? By spending time worshipping God here at St. Matthew's.

Faithfully,

Happy New Year!

ART SHOW: BEDFORD....

A One Night Celebration of 35 Years

Come join us on Fri., Jan. 11 at 6:30 p.m. in the Parish House, when ART SHOW: BEDFORD will celebrate its 35th anniversary with a festive evening of cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, dinner, music and art. The special honoree of this fun evening is the founder and inspiration of ART SHOW: BEDFORD, Mary Berol, who will join us all the way from her new home in Memphis.



To mark the 35th year, "Hope" is the theme of the evening. Well-known artist Jerry Bisceglia has created 100 original oil paintings which will be for sale as numbered editions, depicting 100 different bluebirds, a symbol of hope. The celebration will also feature the lively music of Mark Weigel and "Cow Magnet."

This is the major fundraising effort of the Women of St. Matthew's with all proceeds going to worthy non-profit organizations that serve our community in many important ways. A selection of organizations that have recently been supported by Art Show: Bedford are:

- Abbott House
- The Children's Center at Bedford Hills Correctional Facility
- The Bridge Fund
- The Caring Circle of Hospice Care of Northern Westchester and Putnam
- The Chaplaincy Program in Northern Westchester Hospital
- The Community Center of Katonah
- Fessenden House
- Hospice Care of Northern Westchester
- Midnight Run
- Mount Kisco Day Care Center
- Northern Westchester Shelter

The committee is very appreciative of all those who have supported ART SHOW: BEDFORD for the past 35 years. Start your new year 2008 with an inspirational resolution, become an: Angel—\$500, or a Bluebird—\$250, or Hope—\$125.

Please join us for a good time and a good cause.

January Key Dates

Fri., Jan. 11	Art Show: Bedford's 35th Anniversary Celebration	6:30 p.m.
Tues., Jan. 15	New Moms' Group, Fellowship Room	9:30 a.m.
Sat., Jan. 19	Men's Fellowship Meeting	7:30 a.m.

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Stewardship

The Stewardship Commission would like to thank all parishioners who have returned their pledge cards, and encourage all of those who have not yet responded, to please do so now. As you know, we are making, every effort this year to increase the number of pledging families, so please consider how much St. Matthew's means to you and your family and help us move towards our goal of 100 percent pledge participation. To those of you who have already answered our call and committed for the coming year, thank you for your generosity and continuing support of St. Matthew's.

Women of St. Matthew's Open Meeting, Jan. 8

Heartfelt thanks go to the many Women of St. Matthew's who worked so hard to make Christmas at St. Matthew's so special. They decorated gingerbread houses and wreaths, organized a beautiful and sumptuous brunch, set up the Wish Tree, and filled the church with their cheer and generosity.

The January meeting of the Women of St. Matthew's is scheduled for Tues., Jan. 8 at 9:30 a.m. in the Vestry Room. This meeting is devoted to discussion of the coming year's outreach support. It is an open meeting to all parishioners and a good way to hear about the good works of many of the not-for-profits in our area. The Women of St. Matthew's welcome old and newcomers alike to come and bring their perspective to this process.



Save the Date

Mardi Gras

Sat., Feb. 2

6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Dixieland Jazz and Fun for All Ages

Games and Face-Painting for Children

Potluck Dinner

RSVP: 234-9636

Annual Meeting, Feb. 10

The Annual Parish Meeting of St. Matthew's will be held on Sun., Feb. 10, following the 10 a.m. service. At that time, our Rector Terry Elsberry and Senior Warden Robert Cummings will provide an overview of the state of the church as it enters the new year. Reports from the heads of all our committees and commissions will contained in the Annual Report which will be available at the meeting and in the Parish Office after the meeting for those unable to attend. Vestry elections will also be held.

Moms' Morning Out

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

- Galatians 5:22

St. Matthew's Moms' Group

Tues., Jan. 15

9:30-11 a.m. in the Fellowship Room

This year, make a resolution to add more fruit to your diet – more fruit of the Spirit that is! Join with other moms in a casual setting, once a month, as we listen to our lives, share our stories and together explore how to live into these words from St. Paul. January's fruit is patience; our conversation will be guided by exercises and attention to this oft tried fruit – come taste and see. February's fruit is up for grabs – we need your vote!

Childcare provided. RSVP to Susan Wyper at swyper@stmatthewsbedford.org

St. Matthew's History: A Moment from Our Past

For almost a century, St. Matthew's rectory was completely devoid of children. It wasn't until the birth of the Rev. John Carsten Harper's daughter, Betsy, in 1959 that the 93-year streak was broken. Today, Betsy Harper Danello is married and has four children of her own. A resident of Washington, DC, she is an Assistant United States Attorney and serves as the Senior Warden at St. John's Church on Lafayette Square.



Susan Wyper Ordained

Congratulations to Susan Wyper on her ordination to the priesthood on Sat., Dec. 15 at the cathedral in Hartford, CT. Bob Flanagan and Terry, one of Susan's presenters, attended. As Terry said, "It was a beautiful and very moving occasion."



Christmas 2007 at St. Matthew's

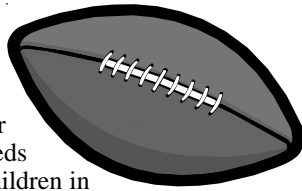


Gingerbread houses, wreaths, great food, the Christmas pageant, poinsettias, Christmas carols, a Bedford Chamber Concert, the Wish Tree, "Amahl," gathering with family and friends — these are the scenes of Christmas at St. Matthew's



Super Bowl Bake Sale, Feb. 8

What better way to enjoy the Super Bowl than to sit back in your favorite chair with wonderful baked goods from the Super Bowl Bake Sale. The sale of those delectable munchies is held in the Fellowship Room during Coffee Hour following the 10 a.m. service. Proceeds from the sale benefit less fortunate children in our area. Parishioners of all ages are encouraged to create culinary delights. Last year, proceeds of the sale were used to purchase a piece of toddler playground equipment for young children staying with their mothers at the Bedford Correctional Facility.



Busy Fall for Fellowship of Timothy

The high school youth group has had a very exciting and rewarding fall, 2007. Our high school students with students from the Bedford Presbyterian Church, spent an afternoon at the Bedford Habitat for Humanity home building site. They nailed up siding to the house and helped install windows. Then later, in October, the youth outdid themselves with the most spectacular and ghoulish Haunted Hike to date. The youth welcomed other teenagers from Antioch Baptist Church as they all creatively transformed the Churchyard into a scary feast. In November, a large group of teenagers and adults traveled to West Point to cheer on the cadets as the football team competed against Tulsa. Then at the end of the month, we delivered more than 60 pounds of cereal to the Katonah Community Center's food pantry where we learned how the center serves the hungry in our area. The youth group looks forward to new projects and adventures in 2008. Happy New Year!

High School Leadership Rally

Early this month, several youth from St. Matthew's, along with Bob Flanagan, will travel to the Incarnation Center in Ivoryton, Connecticut to participate in the Region II Youth Leaders Rally. The rally will be from Fri., Jan. 11 to Sun., Jan. 13. The theme of the rally, "The Christian Leader and Servant Leadership," is designed as an exciting and challenging leadership development program for high-achieving high school students in Region II (Westchester, Putnam and Rockland counties). The 30 teenagers from Region II will explore what it means to be a servant leader in the model of Jesus Christ. The rally will be a special weekend where leadership skills, spiritual and intellectual inquiry and friendship bonds will be emphasized.

Cabin Fever Movie Night

God makes his presence known in all things, even in today's entertainment. So with this in mind, we ask your high schooler to join us for an evening of youth fellowship at the annual "Cabin Fever Movie Night" on Sat., Jan. 26 at 6 p.m. in the Fellowship Room at the Parish House. The entertainment will keep you on the edge of your seat in the best Hollywood tradition (but will not be graphic, gratuitous or in-your-face in any way). So teens, scrape off the mid-winter snow and ice with some pasta and meatballs, and join your friends in front of a large screen movie with stadium sound.

Carpenter's Kids Mite Boxes

Once again, St. Matthew's Church School will raise money to support our 100 Carpenter's Kids orphans attending grade school in Tanzania. With your support and our children's mite box donations, we will help these orphans go to school for another year. Be on the lookout once Lent begins in February.

A Visit from the Rector, St. Mark's, Gulfport

Bo Roberts, the Rector of St. Mark's Church in Gulfport, Mississippi, preached at St. Matthew's on Sun., Dec. 9, after spending time visiting with our parishioners over the weekend. Tying together the scripture readings of the day with the plight of the Hurricane Katrina victims in his area, Bo thanked the Bedell Commission for its support in building a new church, and said that St. Mark's had asked our Vestry if they could name their new church hall after St. Matthew's. His sermon brought together two church communities in two different parts of the country, and he and Terry both emphasized that while a church building is very important, it is the congregation that is the real church.



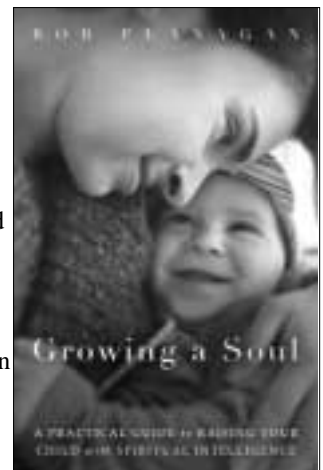
The Rev. Bo Roberts with Camillo Santomero and Terry

A St. Matthew's Author

Be on the lookout later in February, when our own Bob Flanagan's first book will be released. Details on how to purchase the book will follow in the February Key.

It might not come as any surprise to those of us who have had the special opportunity to share in his ministry to children that he would write a book exploring the concept of children's spiritual intelligence, or SQ, and how that can be encouraged just as IQ can be encouraged. In *Growing a Soul, A Practical Guide to Raising Your Child with Spiritual Intelligence*,

Bob guides parents to focus on spiritual development. "It is one thing to be a Christian for yourself," he says, "but when my children were born, I was suddenly responsible for bringing up my daughter and son in the faith." *Growing a Soul* brings together life's lessons learned as a Christian parent and pastor.



St. Matthew's Needs You!

Please take a minute to read the list of volunteer opportunities below. Remember that by giving even a small amount of time you can make an enormous difference to the work of St. Matthew's. As you can see, the possibilities are nearly limitless!

Art Show: Bedford (Jan. 11, 2008)

Co-chairs: Cynthia Brennan (767-0317), Leslie Henshaw (234-3694) and Laurie Sturz (764-8491). Need: Volunteers to help the night of the event

Outreach Commission

Co-chairs: Laurie Sturz (764-8491) and Caroline Shepherd (764-3104). Need: Drivers to pick up food for the Community Center/sandwich makers for the Midnight Run

Property Commission

Co-chairs: Patrick Brennan, Head (764-0317) and Christopher Farrell (234-3891). Need: Help with spring and fall clean-up of church grounds

Welcome Commission

Chair: Janet Schloat (764-1680). Need: Volunteers to welcome and greet new parishioners/bakers of banana bread

Woodlands Commission

Co-chairs: Chris Burdick (234-7763) and John Morris (234-9603). Need: Volunteers for St. Matthew's trail system maintenance

Worship Commission

Chair: Adele Talty (234-4102). Need: Help with specific church events, i.e., the Passion Play or Palm Sunday

Women of St. Matthew's

Chair: Michele Schimmel (764-8116). Need: Members for Board work or volunteers to help on an occasional, as needed basis

Coffee Hour

Chair: Holly Brown (864-1930). Need: Volunteers to serve coffee 3-4 times a year

Men of St. Matthew's

Chair: John Belknap (242-1661). Need: We would welcome new members for Saturday breakfast meetings, interesting presentations and discussions.

St. Matthew's Connection

Chair: Meg Burdick (243-9544). Need: Volunteers to cook for ill or homebound parishioners on an occasional, as needed basis.

Church School

Director: Wendy Markowski (234-9636 ext. 13). Need: Teachers. Full time or substitute

Flower Committee

Co-chairs: Connie Lindsay-Stewart (203-938-2579) and Nancy Gonzales (845-279-1299). Need: Flower arranging and/or occasional flower delivery to homebound parishioners

Volunteer Receptionists

Chair: Connie Lindsay-Stewart (203-938-2579). Need: Regular or substitute receptionists in the Parish House to answer the phone, direct visitors, etc.

Bedford Spring Antiques Show

Chair: Missy Renwick (234-6742) and Show Manager: Michael Jackson (845-278-0788). Need: Volunteers for this very important benefit for St. Matthew's, held in the Spring

Women's Hospitality

Chair: Caroline Grubb (764-0828). Need: Occasional help with special event suppers and evening coffees

Coming soon!

Adult Inquirers' Class Early 2008

**For adults who would like to be
Confirmed or Received into the
Episcopal Church
Or those who would like to Reaffirm their
Baptismal Vows
Contact: Bob Flanagan**

*We take candles
into the night to carry
the spirit of Jesus Christ
into the darkness of the
world.*



Comings & Goings

Please Update Your Parish Directory

New or Returning Parishioners

Ms. Victoria Taylor Allen 230 Heritage Hills Drive, #A Somers NY 10589	Mr. & Mrs. David Fife 137 Upper Shad Road Pound Ridge NY 10576
Mr. & Mrs. William Rapp 85 River Road Scarborough NY 10510	

Changes of Address

Mrs. William J. Heron 1207 Stone Ridge 186 Jerry Browne Road Mystic CT 06355	Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Howard 104 Post Office Road Waccabuc NY 10597
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Reese 300 North Lake Street Litchfield CT 06759	Mr. & Mrs. H. Cutler Whitman IV 514 Bedford Center Road Bedford NY 10506

Tranferred Out

Mr. & Mrs. Edward S. Mundy, November 2007

Holy Baptism

Received into Christ's Holy Church

Arden Elizabeth Bennet Sperry, November 17, 2007

In Memorium

In sure and certain hope

Sven S.H. Fris, September 12, 2007

Jane Eversmann Furman, November 25, 2007

Raymond W. Kerr, December 1, 2007

January Church Calendar

Weekly Events

Holy Eucharist, followed by Bible study, will be held at 10:00 a.m. every Wednesday

The Epiphany of Our Lord, Jan. 6

- 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I**
Altar Guild: Mrs. Moncure and Kimberly Morella
Ushers: Messrs. Bernson and Ehrlich
Lay Reader: Mr. Windsor
Lector: Mr. Freeman
Acolytes: Sam Kelly and Katherine Lange
- 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I, and Church School**
Altar Guild: Mesdames Borner and Blacker
Ushers: Messrs. Estey, Keller, LaMotte, Lines
Lay Reader: Mrs. Thompson
Lector: Mrs. Banks
Acolytes: John Owen and Greg Owen
Junior Crucifers: Drew Gregory and Caroline Johnston
**Lay Minister: Mrs. Farrell*

First Sunday after the Epiphany, Jan. 13

- 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II**
Altar Guild: Mesdames Mankiewicz and Whitman
Ushers: Messrs. Fagan and Foster
Lay Reader: Jane Wood
Lector: Kimberly Morella
Acolytes: Audrey Keller and Harry Woodhull
- 10:00 a.m. Morning Prayer, Church School, and Sermon**
Ushers: Messrs. Needham, Sturz, Lindsay-Stewart;
Mrs. Lindsay-Stewart
Lay Reader: Mr. Windsor
Acolytes: Hadley Keller and Chandler Keller
Junior Crucifers: Andrew Hennessy and Brooks Hennessy
**Lay Minister: Mr. Conrad*

Second Sunday after the Epiphany, Jan. 20

- 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I**
Altar Guild: Mesdames Ehrlich and Keese
Ushers: Messrs. MacDonald and McVicar
Lay Reader: Mr. Banks
Lector: Mrs. Finn
Acolytes: Charlotte Bickley and Charles Wilson
- 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II**
Altar Guild: Mesdames Pinckney and Sturz
Ushers: Messrs. Borner, Bowler, Brown, Durfee
Lay Reader: Mr. Windsor
Lector: Mr. Gale
Acolytes: Andrew D'Avenzo

Third Sunday after the Epiphany, Jan. 27

- 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II**
Altar Guild: Mesdames Scott and Meyer
Ushers: Mr. Seaman and Roger Vincent
Lay Reader: Mr. Conrad
Lector: Mr. Freeman
Acolytes: Henry Bird and Jack Vallar
- 10:00 a.m. Morning Prayer, Church School, and Sermon**
Ushers: Messrs. Lovering, Mockridge, Montross, Schimmel
Lay Reader: Mr. Claude
Acolytes: Margaretta Burdick and Catherine Kulick
Junior Crucifers: Isabel Kronenberg and States Langham
**Lay Minister: Mrs. Thompson*

Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany, Feb. 3

- 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I**
Altar Guild: Mrs. Moncure and Kimberly Morella
Ushers: Messrs. Boe and Claude
Lay Reader: Mrs. Foster
Lector: Mr. Bogert
Acolytes: Ben Colley and Keelin Sweeney
- 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I, and Church School**
Altar Guild: Mesdames Blacker and Borner
Ushers: Messrs. Perry, Proctor, Talty, Tingue
Lay Reader: Mr. Cunningham
Lector: Mrs. Finn
Acolytes: Sam Robinson and Hope Walker
Junior Crucifers: Henry Mockridge and Eliza Sclater-Booth
**Lay Minister: Mr. Chace*

* Children's Service



Mark Your Calendars

Sat., Feb. 2	6 p.m.
Mardi Gras Party	6 p.m.
Sun., Feb. 3	
Super Bowl Bake Sale at Coffee Hour	11 a.m.
Tues., Feb. 5	
Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper	5:30 p.m.
Wed., Feb. 6 Ash Wednesday	
Holy Eucharist with imposition of ashes	10 a.m.
Ash Wednesday service	7:30 p.m.
Sun., Feb. 10	
Annual Parish Meeting, following 10 a.m. service	

THE KEY

The Key is the monthly publication of St. Matthew's Church, Bedford. Parishioners are encouraged to submit ideas for articles or photographs of Parish events. Articles and photographs should be e-mailed to KeyArticles@aol.com by the second Monday of the month, or by arrangement with Herb Foster.

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